

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION
Jackson Purchase
Resource Conservation & Development Area
Kentucky

Date Submitted: April 1995; Revised October 1997

Counties: 8 **

Ballard, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Marshall, and McCracken (1,544,320 acres)

Sponsors: 29 **

8	County Governments
8	Soil and Water Conservation Districts
11	Incorporated Cities
2	Special Districts/Others

General Description of Area:

This RC&D Area is comprised of eight counties located in the western most portion of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. These eight counties are situated between the Mississippi River to the west, the Ohio River to the north, the Tennessee River to the east with the Tennessee State line forming the southern boundary. Much of the area sets atop of the New Madrid Fault, one of the three largest fault lines in the United States.

The major agricultural enterprises are grain and soybean production, tobacco, swine, poultry and beef cattle production. The major non-farm industries include retail services, tire, paper, atomic and chemical production facilities. Major resources include fertile soils, ample rainfall, forests and water. Minor resources include sand, gravel and clay deposits.

The area's population is predominantly rural with 66% living in outlying areas and 24% living in the commercial hub of Paducah/McCracken County. The largest employer in the RC&D Area is the agricultural industry. However, the seasonally adjusted unemployment figures peak at as much as 11% in some counties, forcing many of the young people to leave the area in search of full-time employment.

Congressional Delegation:

Senators:	Wendell Ford (D-KY)	Representative:	Ed Whitfield (R-KY-1)
	Mitch McConnell (R-KY)		

** If a Tribal government is participating as a sponsor, list Tribal reservation lands as well as counties.